**Appointment of dealers by IBP Company**

†2490. SHRI MUNNAVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 131 given in the Rajya Sabha on 26th February, 2002 and state:

(a) the details of relevant documents and information sought for by IBP company from M/s Ganga Auto Aids, Kapashera, New Delhi;

(b) whether accurate relevant documents and information were provided to the company by them in those 117 cases which were disposed of;

(c) whether Government will investigate into the whole matter and scrutinise the documents and dispose of the cases of rest of the persons;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (e) Company has sought documents from M/s Ganga Auto Aids, Kapashera, New Delhi relating to multiple dealership norms, educational qualification, income affidavit from the incoming partner date of birth certificate etc. as per laid down guidelines of the Government. Company has reported that they have collected relevant documents from all the concerned parties of 117 cases of reconstitution approved by IBP except affidavit on income in regard to 30 cases of reconstitution of induction of financial partner. The company has also approved the reconstitution proposal of M/s Ganga Auto Aids, Kapashera, New Delhi after the receipt of documents. In the balance pending cases, the company will take appropriate decision upon the receipt of relevant documents from the concerned dealers.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Oil Companies are competent to take decision on reconstitution proposal and Government need not investigate into the matter.

**Slow Progress in oil exploration**

2491. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the process of oil exploration has slowed down and many sites to oil findings have not been found during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of sites which have been identified during this period; and

(d) the steps taken to start commercial exploration from these sites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) During the last three years from 1999—2002, National Oil Companies (NOCs) and private/joint venture companies have made 42 new hydrocarbons finds. Out of these new finds, 13 have already been put on production. In the remaining "finds"; further assessment/delineation and appraisal through acquisition/processing of seismic data, drilling and detailed testing of wells are to be carried out before putting them on to production.